

cloture is not invoked at that time, the Senate will resume the highway bill.

We hope to complete the bill tomorrow evening. We will have rollcall votes throughout the day. I do not know of any conflicts tomorrow evening. Tonight, there are a number of conflicts, including the President and Mrs. Clinton have invited all Members to the White House for a picnic plus other things. I know that Senators have obligations to attend.

If cloture is not invoked Wednesday, a second vote on cloture will occur at 2 p.m. on Thursday.

If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask the Senate stand in recess under the previous order following the remarks of Senator FORD and Senator SANTORUM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LINE-ITEM VETO

Mr. FORD. As the majority leader indicated as it relates to the line-item veto, I voted for the line-item veto when it left here because I think it is important that we put that into the structure.

When I spoke earlier, just before passage of the line-item veto legislation, I tried to tell my colleagues that the proposal that left here, in my opinion, was too cumbersome; that if we had the Interior appropriations bill that we had last session, there would be 2,040 pieces of legislation under that one bill. Then the President would have to sign 2,040 pieces of legislation in order to either sign them or veto them or line item it, however it might be. So it really is not a line-item veto; it becomes a multiple choice.

It reminds me when I was Governor that we would have a commission authorized, the Governor, to go to New York to sign bonds for highway projects, or whatever it might be. They give you one pen and there would be 49 other pens up there and you sign your name down here and the other 49 pens would work and all those bonds would move aside and then you sign them again.

That is basically what we are trying to do, I think, or cause the President to have to do once these pieces of legislation come up for line-item veto.

When I was Governor I had three options. I had line-item veto. The three options: one, I could line item it and send a message to the legislature why I had vetoed or line itemed that particular piece of legislation or that item in that legislation. The legislature could consider it. They could either sustain the Governor's veto or override it.

The second option I had was to reduce an amount. If we did not need to spend all of it—we had a 2-year budget, we did not need to spend all that money in the first year. We could reduce it, and you draw a line through it, initial it, send a message to the legislature, and they could either sustain or override the veto.

The third option I had was to line item a phrase. That may be a direction—"You cannot use any money for so and so," or "If you are going to use money, you have to do it this way." The Governor had the right to eliminate a phrase.

Those are the only three things. It was simple, direct, and the legislature had an opportunity to sustain or override the veto.

What I am asking tonight, as the conferees were appointed for the line-item veto legislation in conference, is that they look very seriously at what the Senate has done in sending their piece of legislation to conference.

I think simpler is better. It is easy, it is direct. A message must come. And that message, then, can either be accepted or declined. Either sustain the veto or override the veto. I think that is what we ought to do.

Mr. President, I voted in support of the line-item veto when it left here in the hopes that it would be reduced and made somewhat simple so we could line-item veto, we could partially veto—or a phrase; it does not have to be all.

A line-item veto, when you try to explain it to your constituents back home, they think that gives the President the right to take some pork out of the budget.

Right now he has to sign 2,040 pieces of legislation for one appropriations bill. Just one. We are getting into thousands and thousands of pieces of legislation. I think that is wrong.

I hope the conferees will take into consideration my remarks tonight. I would be glad to work with them in any way. And several in this Chamber have had experience as Governors using the line-item veto. In my 4 years as Governor, it was seldom even considered.

It can be done and I think it can be done in the right sort of way. I thank the Chair for its courtesy. I yield the floor.

#### WHERE IS THE BUDGET?

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. President. First, I would like to thank the Chair for his indulgence in spending the time that I am supposed to be in the chair presiding and doing that for me. As customary, the Senator from Virginia is always there to do the gentlemanly thing and fill in a need. I appreciate very, very much the indulgence of the Senator.

I am back to continue my vigil in requesting the President put forward a balanced budget resolution. The last time I appeared here on the Senate floor was the night the President announced his balanced budget resolution. I had sketchy details at the time but did not have the full package that the President presented.

We have gotten it. It is about 6 or 7 pages, double-sided, about that big, that thick. That is his budget proposal, compared to his first budget proposal which was about this thick, to give the comparison, the amount of detail.

As Members have heard on the Senate floor today and in newspapers and other places, it just does not measure up. The President uses a whole lot of assumptions that are exaggerated and made to make the projections of the economic growth and interest rates and everything else look rosy, and as a result, gets to a balanced budget through his numbers with smoke and mirrors.

The Congressional Budget Office, who, in a State of the Union Address in 1993, he stated would be the numbers that he would use—that everyone should use because they are the most accurate—that he would use in determining whether we get to a balanced budget, scores the Clinton budget as continuing deficits of \$200 billion or more. It is a straight line. Deficits do not come down at all under this budget proposal as scored by the Congressional Budget Office.

The people who scored his budget over 10 years as getting the deficit to zero were the Office of Management and Budget, which is over in the Department of Treasury, which is his own people scoring his own numbers, which are, as was said, rosy assumptions. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the one that the President says we have to use, says that we have \$200 billion deficits into the future for the next 10 years.

So, as a result, I have to come back and add another number to this chart, which says, "Days with no proposal to balance the budget from President Clinton."

I gave a period of time to give him the benefit of the doubt to get the numbers up here to let us see what the specifics were, whether this would be scored by a neutral party, the Congressional Budget Office, as a balanced budget resolution. In fact it has come back to be not balanced. It is disappointing.

I just want to go over a couple of the details of the budget and then I want to address, finally, this chart which has gotten a little publicity here, of late.

First, the details of the budget. The Republican budget gets to balance by the year 2002. What are the deficits that are estimated by the Congressional Budget Office under the Clinton budget: \$196 billion in 1996, \$221 billion in 1997, \$199 billion in 1998, \$213 billion in 1999, \$220 billion again in the year 2000; \$211 billion in 2001, \$210 billion in 2002, \$207 billion in 2003, \$209 billion in 2004, and \$209 billion again in the year 2005; over \$2 trillion in additional debt over the next 10 years under his revised budget which he says gets us to zero, which the Congressional Budget Office says gets us to even worse shape than we are now, \$209 billion as opposed to \$175 billion projected this year. So we have made no progress even under Clinton II.

Let us look at the specifics of Clinton II. If you compare the Clinton second budget to his first budget, the one he